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## **SH #2268955**

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**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

*A Tradition of Service*

DATE: November 4, 2011  
FILE NO:

OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

**FROM:** JOSEPH S. HARTSHORNE, COMMANDER  
OFFICE OF THE UNDERSHERIFF

**TO:** JOSEPH B. NUNEZ, CAPTAIN  
INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU

**SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE FORCE REVIEW COMMITTEE FINDINGS:**

Case Number: SH2268955

Incident: Hit Shooting

Incident Date: June 19, 2010

Unit: Lakewood Station / FOR III

Suspect: Samuel Hammond MB/30

Involved Employees: Deputy John Denney # [REDACTED]

EFRC Date: October 20, 2011

On October 20, 2011, the Executive Force Review Committee consisting of Commander Joseph Hartshorne, Commander Stephen Johnson, and Commander Eric Parra met and reviewed the above case. The applicable policies that were evaluated were: MPP 3-01/025.00, Use of Force; 3-01/025.30, Use of Firearms and Deadly Force; 3-01/025.10, Unreasonable Force; and 3-01/050.10, Performance to Standards.

**FINDINGS:**

The Committee determined that the force used by Deputy John Denney was reasonable, necessary, and in compliance with Department Policy. The Committee also determined that the tactics used by Deputy Denney were sound and reasonable.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Committee recommended that the unit commander direct unit level briefings regarding pursuits and the tactical use of the duplex patch for emergent radio traffic.



**LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
BUREAU OF FRAUD AND CORRUPTION PROSECUTIONS  
JUSTICE SYSTEM INTEGRITY DIVISION**

STEVE COOLEY • District Attorney  
JOHN K. SPILLANE • Chief Deputy District Attorney  
CURTIS A. HAZELL • Assistant District Attorney

JANICE L. MAURIZI • Director

March 17, 2011

Captain David Smith  
Homicide Bureau  
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department  
5747 Rickenbacker Road  
Commerce, California 90040

Re: J.S.I.D. File # 10-0466  
L.A.S.D. File # 010-00076-3100-999

Dear Captain Smith,

The Justice System Integrity Division of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has completed its review of the June 19, 2010, non-fatal shooting of Samuel Hammond by Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy John Denney. It is our conclusion that Deputy Denney acted in lawful self-defense and defense of others.

The following analysis is based on reports prepared by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, submitted to this office on January 5, 2011. The District Attorney's Command Center was notified of the shooting on June 19, 2010 at approximately 6:48 p.m. The District Attorney Response Team, comprised of Deputy District Attorney Geoffrey Rendon and District Attorney Senior Investigator [REDACTED], responded and was given a briefing and a walk-through of the scene. The Response Team also participated in several witness interviews.

Deputy Denney provided a voluntary statement to investigators and his statement was considered in this analysis.

**FACTUAL ANALYSIS**

On June 19, 2010, at approximately 5:25 p.m., Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputies responded to a grand theft call originating from the JCPenney's retail store located at the Lakewood Center Mall. JCPenney's Loss Prevention Officer [REDACTED] observed Samuel Hammond inside the store via closed circuit security cameras. Hammond removed several articles of clothing from display racks within the store and placed them into a bag. Hammond exited the store

without paying for the items. [REDACTED] directed Loss Prevention Officer [REDACTED] to detain Hammond.

[REDACTED] exited the store and approached Hammond. Hammond turned towards [REDACTED] and brandished a knife, which he pointed at [REDACTED]. Hammond stated, "Get back, I'm not afraid to use it." [REDACTED] put both of his hands into the air and began to walk backwards. Hammond used a set of keys to attempt to enter a gold Chevrolet Malibu. Loss Prevention Officer [REDACTED] arrived at the location and began arguing with Hammond over the stolen merchandise. Hammond threw the bag of clothing at [REDACTED] entered the vehicle and drove away.

Security Officer [REDACTED] was driving a marked security vehicle in the mall parking lot when he heard a radio call regarding a theft at JCPenney's. [REDACTED] heard a description of the suspect's vehicle and responded to where the vehicle was last seen. Hammond's vehicle was stopped nearby, stuck behind an idling taxicab. Hammond reversed his vehicle and maneuvered around the taxicab, driving into the wrong lanes of traffic. Hammond drove directly towards [REDACTED] vehicle, causing [REDACTED] to accelerate and turn out of the way to avoid being struck.

Security Officer [REDACTED] was on bike patrol at the Lakewood Mall when he heard a radio call regarding a theft at JCPenney's. [REDACTED] rode his bicycle to the area where the suspect was last seen. [REDACTED] saw Hammond's vehicle stuck behind an idling taxicab. Hammond reversed his vehicle and drove directly towards [REDACTED] causing [REDACTED] to get out of the way. Hammond's vehicle got stuck behind a Honda Accord, which Hammond struck and pushed out of the way so he could pass.

Deputy Matthew Ferguson was on patrol, at the Lakewood Center Mall, when he heard a broadcast of a theft from JCPenney's. Mall security broadcast the suspect's location and Ferguson responded. Ferguson saw Hammond's vehicle nearby. Hammond turned his vehicle into a nearby parking lot and continued to drive. Ferguson activated his lights and siren and initiated a pursuit. Hammond accelerated to approximately 75 miles per hour, in a 40 mile per hour zone, and distanced himself from Ferguson.

As Ferguson neared a nearby intersection, he observed smoke and skid marks and saw cars pulled over to the side of the street.<sup>1</sup> Ferguson continued to follow Hammond and saw Hammond lose control of his vehicle. Hammond's vehicle came to a rest. Ferguson exited his vehicle to approach Hammond. Hammond accelerated away. Ferguson re-entered his vehicle and followed Hammond. A short distance later, Ferguson terminated his pursuit, but continued to visually monitor Hammond's vehicle from a distance. Hammond drove his vehicle down a "U-shaped" alleyway and Ferguson waited for Hammond's vehicle to re-emerge. Hammond's vehicle did not re-emerge and Ferguson slowly drove his vehicle into the alley.

As Ferguson drove, he saw Hammond on foot. Ferguson exited his patrol car and followed Hammond. Ferguson drew his department-issued firearm and ordered Hammond to stop.

<sup>1</sup> It was later determined that Hammond struck two vehicles, belonging to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] respectively, during the pursuit. Ferguson believed that the vehicles had pulled over because of his lights and sirens. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] later identified Hammond's vehicle as the one that had struck both of their vehicles during the pursuit.

Hammond turned toward Ferguson and stated, "I can't go to prison. I didn't do anything." Hammond turned and started jogging away. Ferguson followed Hammond and broadcast that he (Ferguson) was in foot pursuit.

Deputy John Denney responded to the location with Sheriff's Explorer [REDACTED] Denney exited his patrol car and drew his department-issued firearm. Denney ordered Hammond to stop. Ferguson caught up to Denney and Hammond. Hammond turned and faced the deputies. Hammond was holding a folding knife in his right hand. The blade was open.

Ferguson told Hammond to "drop the knife" and "get down on the ground." Hammond ignored Ferguson's commands and stated, "I can't go back to prison." Hammond stated, "Just kill me. Just kill me." Hammond looked skyward and said something unintelligible, but muttered the word "God." It appeared that Hammond was praying.

Deputy Christine Roam and her [REDACTED] Deputy [REDACTED] arrived at the location to assist Ferguson and Denney. The four deputies surrounded Hammond in a semi-circle. The deputies were approximately 15 feet away from Hammond and were ordering Hammond to drop the knife and get on the ground. Hammond did not comply with their commands and Roam told [REDACTED] to draw his taser. The other deputies continued to order Hammond to drop the knife.

Hammond continued to refuse to drop the knife and [REDACTED] deployed his taser at Hammond. A single probe struck Hammond in the upper torso. Hammond pulled the probe from his body and advanced towards Denney and [REDACTED] with the knife in his hand. Hammond took approximately one and one-half steps towards Denney and [REDACTED] while raising his right hand, which held the knife. Fearing for the safety of himself and his fellow deputies, Denney fired three shots at Hammond from his service weapon.

Hammond fell to the ground and the knife dropped from his hand. Ferguson kicked the knife away. [REDACTED] and Ferguson handcuffed Hammond. Paramedics arrived and rendered medical assistance to Hammond.

At the time of the shooting, Denney was dressed in a short-sleeved uniform with a visible Sheriff's badge, shoulder patches and utility belt. Denney was armed with a 9mm semiautomatic Beretta.

[REDACTED] was in the front yard of her residence in the [REDACTED] Lakewood, when she heard sirens and saw a police vehicle stop in front of a driveway three houses north of her location. Two deputies exited the vehicle and ordered Hammond to get on the ground. Hammond turned towards the deputies and extended his right hand, in which he held a knife. One of the deputies fired a taser at Hammond from approximately five to eight feet away. Hammond remained standing and continued to waive the knife at the deputies. [REDACTED] turned to call her [REDACTED] and heard three gunshots. Hammond fell to the ground.

[REDACTED] was in her bedroom, on [REDACTED] and heard sirens. A male and female deputy yelled to someone, "Get on the floor!" The deputies yelled the command at least four times. [REDACTED] ran to her living room window, looked outside and saw Hammond standing

in her [REDACTED] driveway. Hammond had his back to [REDACTED] and she could not see Hammond's hands. A police car was stopped in the street and three male deputies and a female deputy were pointing firearms (three handguns and a shotgun) at Hammond.

[REDACTED] heard a sound, which she believed to be a taser being discharged. [REDACTED] believed that Hammond fell to the ground and [REDACTED] lost sight of him behind a car that was parked in the driveway. [REDACTED] heard the deputies yell, "Drop the gun," numerous times. [REDACTED] heard three gunshots but did not see who fired the shots.

[REDACTED] was in his bedroom on [REDACTED] when he heard cars driving down his street and a helicopter overhead. [REDACTED] looked out a living room window and saw two police vehicles stopped in the street, in front of his house. Unknown persons yelled, "Get down! Get down!" [REDACTED] heard what he thought was a taser being discharged. [REDACTED] walked to his front door and heard three gunshots. He opened his front door and walked onto his porch. Hammond was lying at the base of the driveway to the north. Three deputies were standing near Hammond. A deputy kicked a knife away from near Hammond's hands. [REDACTED] re-entered his residence.

[REDACTED] was inside her residence on [REDACTED] when she heard police sirens outside. She looked out the front door and saw Hammond standing in the adjacent driveway. Hammond was facing multiple deputies and was holding a knife in his right hand. Hammond took two steps towards the deputies and [REDACTED] heard two or three shots fired. Hammond fell to the ground. [REDACTED] did not hear if the deputies or Hammond said anything prior to the shooting, due to the volume of the police sirens and the sound from a helicopter overhead.

Sheriff's investigators responded to Long Beach Memorial Hospital to interview Hammond. Hammond waived his Miranda Rights and spoke to the investigators. Hammond was very evasive and contradictory throughout the interview. At one point, he stated that he did not remember anything that happened the entire day of the shooting, but later recounted certain details, such as being at JCPenney's and later, being tased. He denied being confronted by JCPenney's security or driving his car from the location.

During the interview, Hammond stated that his [REDACTED] a retired [REDACTED] [REDACTED] did not have anything to do with what occurred. Hammond stated, "If I have to leave this life, I would rather go." He later stated, "Like I said, if I have to leave this life, I would prefer to go, than any of my family, or my [REDACTED] or my [REDACTED] I would prefer to leave. I am responsible. I should be a man." He repeated, "I would just prefer to leave this life." Hammond told the investigators that he'd recently become unemployed and needed to buy food and pay his rent. He expressed that he did not want to disappoint his [REDACTED]

### **Forensic Evidence**

Hammond sustained multiple gunshot wounds to his upper torso.

At the scene, investigators observed a folding knife, in the open position, on the sidewalk in front of the residence where the shooting occurred. The knife was approximately eight and a half



inches long, including a three and three quarters-inch blade. The investigators also located an expended taser cartridge and three expended 9mm shell casings.

### **Samuel Hammond's Criminal History**

Arising out of Hammond's actions on June 19, 2010, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office filed felony complaint VA115874, charging Hammond with eight felony counts, including Assault on a Peace Officer, in violation of Penal Code section 245(c). The preliminary hearing in that case is pending.

### **CONCLUSION**

California law permits the use of deadly force in self-defense or in defense of others if it reasonably appears to the person claiming the right of self-defense or the defense of others that he actually and reasonably believed he or others were in imminent danger of great bodily injury or death. "[T]he rule is well established that one who, without fault, is placed under circumstances sufficient to excite the fears of a reasonable man that another designs to commit a felony or some great bodily injury and to afford grounds for a reasonable belief of imminent danger, may act upon those fears alone and may slay his assailant and be justified by appearances." People v. Mercer (1962) 210 Cal. App. 2d 153, 161.

In protecting himself or another, a person may use all force which he believes reasonably necessary and which would appear to a reasonable person, in the same or similar circumstances, to be necessary to prevent injury which appears to be imminent. California Jury Instructions-CALCRIM 505.

When the peril is swift and imminent and the necessity for action immediate, the law does not weigh into nice scales the conduct of the assailed and say he shall not be justified in killing because he might have resorted to other means to secure his safety. People v Collins, (1961) 189 Cal. App.2d 575.

The "reasonableness" of a particular use of force must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene, rather than with the 20/20 vision of hindsight... The calculus of reasonableness must embody allowance for the fact that police are often forced to make split-second judgments -- in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving -- about the amount of force that is necessary in a particular situation. Graham v. Conner, (1989) 490 U.S. 386, 396-397.

The evidence examined in this investigation shows that Samuel Hammond burglarized JCPenney's and assaulted security officers as he attempted to leave with the merchandise. Hammond entered his vehicle and fled from a responding Sheriff's deputy, colliding with

Captain Smith  
March 17, 2011  
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multiple vehicles as he drove. Hammond eventually abandoned his vehicle and fled on foot. Multiple Sheriff's deputies contacted Hammond and attempted to detain him. Hammond was armed with a knife and refused to comply with the deputies' orders to discard the knife and get on the ground. Hammond took an aggressive posture towards the deputies while pointing the knife in their direction. The officers deployed non-lethal force, which did not subdue Hammond. He was within mere feet of the deputies and moved towards them in an aggressive manner. Deputy John Denney, in fear for his safety and the lives of fellow deputies, fired three rounds at Hammond.

We conclude that Deputy Denney acted in lawful self-defense and lawful defense of others when he used deadly force against Samuel Hammond. We are therefore closing our file and will take no further action in this matter.

Very truly yours,

STEVE COOLEY  
District Attorney

By 

GEOFFREY RENDON  
Deputy District Attorney  
(213)974-3888

c: Deputy John Denney # 



# Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

## Officer Involved Shooting

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Report Date: June 19, 2010		Bureau/Station/Facility: Lakewood Station		Admin. Invest? <input type="checkbox"/>		Hit? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Incident Information</b>							
URN: 010-14178-1329-032				Date: June 19, 2010		Time: 1731 Hours	
City or Station: Lakewood Station				Nature of Incident: 211 Suspect armed with buck knife refused to drop knife. Taser deployed, no effect, Dep. fires 3 rounds.			
Location: [Redacted] Deeboyar Ave., Lakewood, 90713							
Location Type (circle one or more): Backyard Beach Business Freeway Industrial Park Parking Lot <u>Residence</u> Rural School Street Other: _____		Lighting (circle only one): Darkness <u>Daylight</u> Other Street Lights		Incident Type (circle one or more): Accidental <u>Armed Person</u> Fleeing Suspect Foot Pursuit Gun Take Away Moving Vehicle Sniper/Ambush Stunt Struggle Involved Traffic Stop Unarmed Person Unintentional Vehicle Pursuit Warrant Service Warning Shot Other: _____		Initiated by (circle only one): <u>Arrest Warrant</u> <u>Call</u> Observation One Person Unit Other Search Warrant Two Person Unit	
		Weather (circle only one): <u>Clear</u> Cloudy Fog Rain				Prior Activity (circle only one): Detective Inmate Transport Other <u>Routine Patrol</u>	
		Distance: 10 Feet					
		Total # of Shots Fired by Deputy: 3 Total # of Shots Fired by Suspect: 0				Aero Unit? <input type="checkbox"/> Canine Unit? <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Employee Witnesses</b>							
Employee # [Redacted]	Last Name: Ferguson	First Name: Matthew	M.I.: A.	ShiftTime (circle only one): EM <input type="checkbox"/> <u>PM</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Day <input type="checkbox"/>	ShiftType (circle only one): <u>Regular</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Overtime <input type="checkbox"/> Off Duty <input type="checkbox"/>		
Employee # [Redacted]	Last Name: [Redacted]	First Name: [Redacted]	M.I.: [Redacted]	ShiftTime (circle only one): EM <input type="checkbox"/> [Redacted] <input type="checkbox"/> Day <input type="checkbox"/>	ShiftType (circle only one): [Redacted] <input type="checkbox"/> Overtime <input type="checkbox"/> Off Duty <input type="checkbox"/>		
Employee # [Redacted]	Last Name: Roam	First Name: Christine	M.I.: D.	ShiftTime (circle only one): EM <input type="checkbox"/> <u>PM</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Day <input type="checkbox"/>	ShiftType (circle only one): <u>Regular</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Overtime <input type="checkbox"/> Off Duty <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Non-Employee Witnesses</b>							
Last Name		First Name		M.I.			
Street Address		City		Zip Code		Work Ph Home Ph	
Last Name		First Name		M.I.			
Street Address		City		Zip Code		Work Ph Home Ph	
Last Name		First Name		M.I.			
Street Address		City		Zip Code		Work Ph Home Ph	
<b>Supervisors</b>							
Employee # [Redacted]	Last Name: Herrera	First Name: Gabriela	M.I.	(circle one or more): <u>On Duty</u> Present during shooting		Witness to shooting Involved in shooting	
Employee # [Redacted]	Last Name: Moore	First Name: Jeffrey	M.I.: L.	(circle one or more): <u>On Duty</u> Present during shooting		Witness to shooting Involved in shooting	
<b>Watch Sergeant</b>							
Employee # [Redacted]	Last Name: Chavez	First Name: Pilar	M.I.: nmn				
<b>Watch Commander</b>							
Employee # [Redacted]	Last Name: Daily	First Name: Ruthie	M.I.: V.				

PSTD Use Only	
SH #	2268955



# Officer Involved Shooting Involved Employee Information

URN: 010-14178-1329-032

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## Involved Employee

<b>E 1</b>	Employee #	Last Name <b>Denney</b>	First Name <b>John</b>	M I <b>H</b>
	Sex <b>M</b>	Race <b>W</b>	Rank <b>Deputy Sheriff</b>	Unit Assignment <b>Lakewood</b>
	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.) <b>132A</b>			
	Shift Time (circle only one): <b>EM</b> <u><b>PM</b></u> <b>Day</b>		Shift Type (circle only one): <u><b>Regular</b></u> <b>Overtime</b> <b>Off Duty</b>	
	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used:	
	Hospital Admission? <input type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #
	Interviewed? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
	Hrs of sleep prior to shooting <b>8-9</b>		Duty Time (hrs):	
	Age <b>5'10"</b>		Weight <b>175</b>	
	Clothing (circle only one): Plain Clothes no Vest Plain Clothes w/ Vest Raid Jacket no Vest <u>Uniform w/ Vest</u>		Raid Jacket w/ Vest: Uniform no Vest <u>Uniform w/ Vest</u>	
	Range Qualification Date:		PPC Qualification Date:	Laser Training Date:
	Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>	Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>	Certification Unit:	Prior Shootings? <input type="checkbox"/>
	Number of Prior Shootings:			
	Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M I
	Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M I

  

<b>E</b>	Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M I
	Sex	Race	Rank	Unit Assignment
	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.)			
	Shift Time (circle only one): <b>EM</b> <b>PM</b> <b>Day</b>		Shift Type (circle only one): <b>Regular</b> <b>Overtime</b> <b>Off Duty</b>	
	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used:	
	Hospital Admission? <input type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #
	Interviewed? <input type="checkbox"/>			
	Hrs of sleep prior to shooting		Duty Time (hrs):	
	Age		Weight	
	Clothing (circle only one): Plain Clothes no Vest Plain Clothes w/ Vest Raid Jacket no Vest		Raid Jacket w/ Vest: Uniform no Vest Uniform w/ Vest	
	Range Qualification Date:		PPC Qualification Date:	Laser Training Date:
	Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>	Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>	Certification Unit:	Prior Shootings? <input type="checkbox"/>
	Number of Prior Shootings:			
	Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M I
	Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M I

  

<b>E</b>	Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M I
	Sex	Race	Rank	Unit Assignment
	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.)			
	Shift Time (circle only one): <b>EM</b> <b>PM</b> <b>Day</b>		Shift Type (circle only one): <b>Regular</b> <b>Overtime</b> <b>Off Duty</b>	
	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used:	
	Hospital Admission? <input type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #
	Interviewed? <input type="checkbox"/>			
	Hrs of sleep prior to shooting		Duty Time (hrs):	
	Age		Weight	
	Clothing (circle only one): Plain Clothes no Vest Plain Clothes w/ Vest Raid Jacket no Vest		Raid Jacket w/ Vest: Uniform no Vest Uniform w/ Vest	
	Range Qualification Date:		PPC Qualification Date:	Laser Training Date:
	Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>	Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>	Certification Unit:	Prior Shootings? <input type="checkbox"/>
	Number of Prior Shootings:			
	Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M I
	Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M I

# Officer Involved Shooting Involved Employee Information

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## Involved Employee

<b>E</b>	Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M I
	Sex	Race	Rank	Unit Assignment
	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.)			
	Shift Time (circle only one) EM    PM    Day		Shift Type (circle only one) Regular    Overtime    Off Duty	
	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used	
	Hospital Admission? <input type="checkbox"/>		Hospital Name	
	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case #	
	Interviewed? <input type="checkbox"/>			
	Hrs of sleep prior to shooting		Duty Time (hrs)	
	Clothing (circle only one) Plain Clothes no Vest    Raid Jacket w/ Vest		Other Factors	
	Age		Height	
	Weight		PPC Qualification Date	
	Range Qualification Date		Laser Training Date	
	Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>		Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Certification Unit		Prior Shootings? <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Number of Prior Shootings			
	Field Training Officer Emp #		Last Name	
	First Name		M I	
	Field Training Officer Emp #		Last Name	
	First Name		M I	

  

<b>E</b>	Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M I
	Sex	Race	Rank	Unit Assignment
	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.)			
	Shift Time (circle only one) EM    PM    Day		Shift Type (circle only one) Regular    Overtime    Off Duty	
	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used	
	Hospital Admission? <input type="checkbox"/>		Hospital Name	
	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case #	
	Interviewed? <input type="checkbox"/>			
	Hrs of sleep prior to shooting		Duty Time (hrs)	
	Clothing (circle only one) Plain Clothes no Vest    Raid Jacket w/ Vest		Other Factors	
	Age		Height	
	Weight		PPC Qualification Date	
	Range Qualification Date		Laser Training Date	
	Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>		Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Certification Unit		Prior Shootings? <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Number of Prior Shootings			
	Field Training Officer Emp #		Last Name	
	First Name		M I	
	Field Training Officer Emp #		Last Name	
	First Name		M I	

  

<b>E</b>	Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M I
	Sex	Race	Rank	Unit Assignment
	Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.)			
	Shift Time (circle only one) EM    PM    Day		Shift Type (circle only one) Regular    Overtime    Off Duty	
	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used	
	Hospital Admission? <input type="checkbox"/>		Hospital Name	
	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>		Coroner Case #	
	Interviewed? <input type="checkbox"/>			
	Hrs of sleep prior to shooting		Duty Time (hrs)	
	Clothing (circle only one) Plain Clothes no Vest    Raid Jacket w/ Vest		Other Factors	
	Age		Height	
	Weight		PPC Qualification Date	
	Range Qualification Date		Laser Training Date	
	Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>		Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Certification Unit		Prior Shootings? <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Number of Prior Shootings			
	Field Training Officer Emp #		Last Name	
	First Name		M I	
	Field Training Officer Emp #		Last Name	
	First Name		M I	

# Officer Involved Shooting Suspect Information

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## Suspect Information

<b>S 1</b>	Last Name <b>Hammond</b>		First Name <b>Samuel</b>		M.I. <b>nmn</b>
	AKA Last Name		First Name		M.I.
	Sex <b>M</b> Race <b>B</b>	Street Address. [REDACTED]		City [REDACTED]	State & Zip Code [REDACTED]
	Work Phone	Home Phone	Social Security #		Driver's License #
	Age <b>40</b> D.O.B. <b>09-14-1969</b>	Height <b>6'1"</b> Weight <b>180</b>	FBI # [REDACTED]		CL # [REDACTED]
	Booking # <b>2374888</b>	Primary Charge <b>211 PC</b>		Secondary Charge <b>245(a)(1)PC</b>	
	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used
	Armed? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Apprehended? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mental Illness? <input type="checkbox"/>		Criminal History? [REDACTED]
	Vehicle Make <b>Chevrolet</b>		Model <b>Malibu</b>		Year <b>2004</b>

<b>S</b>	Last Name		First Name		M.I.
	AKA Last Name		First Name		M.I.
	Sex Race	Street Address		City	State & Zip Code
	Work Phone	Home Phone	Social Security #		Driver's License #
	Age D.O.B.	Height Weight	FBI #		CL #
	Booking #	Primary Charge		Secondary Charge	
	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used
	Armed? <input type="checkbox"/>	Apprehended? <input type="checkbox"/>	Mental Illness? <input type="checkbox"/>		Criminal History? <input type="checkbox"/>
	Vehicle Make		Model		Year

<b>S</b>	Last Name		First Name		M.I.
	AKA Last Name		First Name		M.I.
	Sex Race	Street Address		City	State & Zip Code
	Work Phone	Home Phone	Social Security #		Driver's License #
	Age D.O.B.	Height Weight	FBI #		CL #
	Booking #	Primary Charge		Secondary Charge	
	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used
	Armed? <input type="checkbox"/>	Apprehended? <input type="checkbox"/>	Mental Illness? <input type="checkbox"/>		Criminal History? <input type="checkbox"/>
	Vehicle Make		Model		Year

<b>S</b>	Last Name		First Name		M.I.
	AKA Last Name		First Name		M.I.
	Sex Race	Street Address		City	State & Zip Code
	Work Phone	Home Phone	Social Security #		Driver's License #
	Age D.O.B.	Height Weight	FBI #		CL #
	Booking #	Primary Charge		Secondary Charge	
	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>		Substance Used
	Armed? <input type="checkbox"/>	Apprehended? <input type="checkbox"/>	Mental Illness? <input type="checkbox"/>		Criminal History? <input type="checkbox"/>
	Vehicle Make		Model		Year

**Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department**

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Non-Employee Witnesses				
Last Name		First Name		M I
Street Address		Zip Code		Work Ph Home Ph
Last Name		First Name		M I
Street Address		Zip Code		Work Ph Home Ph
Last Name		First Name		M I
Street Address		Zip Code		Work Ph Home Ph
Last Name		First Name		M,I
Street Address		Zip Code		Work Ph Home Ph
Last Name		First Name		M I,
Street Address		Zip Code		Work Ph Home Ph
Last Name		First Name		M I
Street Address		Zip Code		Work Ph Home Ph
Last Name		First Name		M,I.
Street Address		Zip Code		Work Ph Home Ph
Last Name		First Name		M I
Street Address		Zip Code		Work Ph Home Ph
Last Name		First Name		M I
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Street Address		Zip Code		Work Ph Home Ph

# SUPPLEMENTAL EMPLOYEE WITNESSES

## Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

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Employee Witnesses			
Last Name <b>Ferguson</b>	First Name <b>Matthew</b>	M I	
Street Address <b>5130 North Clark Avenue, Lakewood</b>	Zip Code <b>90712</b>	Work Ph <b>562 623 3500</b>	Home Ph
Last Name <b>Roam</b>	First Name <b>Christine</b>	M I	
Street Address <b>5130 North Clark Avenue, Lakewood</b>	Zip Code <b>90712</b>	Work Ph <b>562 623-3500</b>	Home Ph
Last Name [REDACTED]	First Name [REDACTED]	M I	
Street Address <b>5130 North Clark Avenue, Lakewood</b>	Zip Code <b>90712</b>	Work Ph <b>562 623 3500</b>	Home Ph
Last Name [REDACTED]	First Name [REDACTED]	M I	
Street Address <b>5130 North Clark Avenue, Lakewood</b>	Zip Code <b>90712</b>	Work Ph <b>562 623-3500</b>	Home Ph
Last Name	First Name	M I	
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name	First Name	M I	
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
Last Name	First Name	M I	
Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph
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Street Address	Zip Code	Work Ph	Home Ph



## **INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

### **DEPUTY INVOLVED HIT- SHOOTING**

**CASE NUMBER: SH# 2268955**

**File # 010-14178-1329-032**

**DATE: June 19, 2010, Saturday**

**TIME: 1731 hours**

**LOCATION: [REDACTED] Deeboyar Avenue, Lakewood**

### **OPENING STATEMENT**

On Monday, June 10, 2010, Internal Affairs Bureau investigators Sergeant Scott Hill, Sergeant Jimmy Rios and Lieutenant Scott Brickert responded to [REDACTED] Deeboyar Avenue in regard to a Deputy Involved Hit-Shooting in the City of Lakewood. Internal Affairs Bureau investigators, the District Attorney's Office, and the Office of Independent Review were given a briefing by Homicide Bureau.

### **SYNOPSIS**

On June 19, 2010 Deputy Matthew Ferguson was working Lakewood Station, patrol unit #132W2, assigned to the Lakewood Center Mall. While on patrol in the parking lot of the Lakewood Center Mall he heard a loss prevention officer from "JC Penney's" broadcast over the mall security radio that "they had a male black take off with a large amount of merchandise and run into the parking lot." The loss prevention officer advised the male had "entered a gold colored Chevy Malibu."

Deputy Ferguson was advised by mall security, via his mall radio, the suspect was driving evasively through the mall parking area and was now stopped at a red light at Hardwick Street and Lakewood Boulevard. Deputy Ferguson was at Pepperwood Avenue and Hardwick Street just a block east of where the suspect was last seen. Deputy Ferguson activated a short burst of his siren to alert traffic in an attempt to catch up to the suspect. The siren also caught the attention of the suspect, who quickly made a few turns. Deputy Ferguson, believing a grand theft had occurred, activated his red lights and siren, initiating a pursuit. He broadcast he was in pursuit and the reason for his pursuit. The pursuit continued for approximately fifty seconds before being cancelled by the Lakewood Watch Commander. **An audio copy of radio transmissions are included with case as Exhibit D.**

Deputy Ferguson along with other Lakewood deputies continued to check the area for the suspect, using L-Tac to communicate. Deputy Ferguson spotted the suspect walking north in an alley behind (west) the apartments located at [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Deputy Ferguson accelerated his vehicle northbound in the alley toward the suspect. The suspect looked back in the direction of Deputy Ferguson and began running north in the alley. The suspect continued running north to an east west running alley north of the apartments. The suspect ran east in that alley toward Deeboyar Avenue, out of view of Deputy Ferguson.

Deputy Ferguson drove to the alley and turned east. He saw the suspect running toward Deeboyar Avenue. He stopped his patrol car in the alley just west of Deeboyar Avenue, facing east, exiting his patrol car. Deputy Ferguson drew his firearm and ordered the suspect to stop. The suspect complied, turned, looked at Deputy Ferguson stating "I can't go to prison, I didn't do anything." The suspect then turned away from Deputy Ferguson, running east in the alley toward Deeboyar Avenue where he turned north on the west sidewalk.

Deputy Ferguson ran after the suspect, who was now approximately thirty-five feet away from him. Using his hand-held radio, Deputy Ferguson broadcast he was in foot pursuit of the suspect. **(See radio communications notes for further).**

Deputy Ferguson ran approximately five hundred feet when he saw Deputy Denney (Unit 132A) drive north past him on Deeboyar Avenue. Deputy Denney stopped his patrol car adjacent to the suspect and exited his patrol car. Deputy Denney drew his firearm. The suspect stopped in the mouth of the driveway at [REDACTED] Deeboyar Avenue. Deputy Ferguson had caught up to Deputy Denney, both deputies were holding the suspect at gunpoint. Deputy Ferguson was standing on the west sidewalk to the left (west) of Deputy Denney who was standing near to where the address is painted on the curb. They both immediately saw the suspect was holding a folding "Buck Knife" (8 ½ inch overall length) in his right hand, at his side. The blade to the knife was in the open and locked position.

The deputies ordered the suspect to drop the knife and get on the ground. The suspect did not respond, looking to the sky saying, "you're going to have to kill me. I'm not going back to jail." They repeatedly ordered the suspect to drop the knife, the suspect ignored them looking to the sky saying, "I'm not going back to jail. You're going to have to kill me. Please, Lord let him kill me." Deputy Denney broadcast via his hand-held radio they were detaining the suspect at gunpoint and the suspect was armed with a knife

Deputies Roam and [REDACTED] responded in from the north on Deeboyar Avenue stopping their patrol car southeast of where the deputies were detaining the suspect at gunpoint. Deputies Roam and [REDACTED] circled around to the east and approached. Deputies [REDACTED] and Roam took a position east of Deputy Denney making a semi-circle around the suspect avoiding a crossfire situation.

Deputy Roam gave the suspect verbal commands to drop the knife, to which the suspect did not respond. The suspect was still holding the knife clinched in his right hand at about waist level. Seeing the suspect tense, aggressive and non-responsive behavior, Deputy Roam told Deputy [REDACTED] to "taze" the suspect. Deputy [REDACTED] shot the suspect with his Taser. The suspect was struck with one of the darts in the upper torso, the other dart missed the suspect. The suspect was able to reach up with his left hand and remove the dart.

In one fluid movement the suspect pulled the dart from his body, moving toward Deputies [REDACTED] and Denney raising the knife. Deputy [REDACTED] was in a defenseless position, removing the taser cartridge. Deputy Denney seeing the threat posed by the suspect, fearing for Deputy [REDACTED] and his life, fired three rounds from his weapon striking the suspect. The suspect immediately fell to the ground.

Deputy Ferguson, seeing the knife was still within inches of the suspect's body, slid the knife away with his foot. The suspect was handcuffed and searched for additional weapons by Deputy [REDACTED]. Deputy [REDACTED] rolled the suspect onto his right side, monitoring his condition pending fire departments arrival. Fire department and paramedics arrived and the handcuffs were removed allowing them to treat the suspect for his injuries.

The suspect's knife was recovered at the scene. The suspect sustained multiple gunshot wounds to the upper torso. He was transported to Long Beach Memorial hospital where he was treated for his wounds.

The Deputy-Involved Hit-Shooting incident was investigated and documented by Homicide detectives. For more information, see the Homicide Investigation Book (Exhibit A).

**IAB Note: On March 17, 2011 the Sheriff's Department received the letter of opinion from the District Attorney's Office. The District Attorney concluded Deputy Denney acted lawfully and in self-defense. For further, see the letter of opinion included with this case in miscellaneous documents.**

### INVOLVED PERSONNEL

Denney, John, Deputy Sheriff, # [REDACTED]  
Unit 132A  
Field Operations Region III  
Date of Employment: September 5, 2006  
Date Assigned to Patrol: [REDACTED]  
Date Completed Patrol Training: [REDACTED]  
Prior Shooting Incidents: [REDACTED]  
Prior Founded Force Incidents: [REDACTED]

### SUSPECT

Hammond, Samuel, MB/30, Booking #2374888, 6'1", 180lbs

The Consolidated Criminal History System reveals Suspect Hammond has been

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

For a complete Consolidated Criminal History see copy of Criminal History in homicide book (Exhibit A).

### DEPARTMENT WITNESSES

Ferguson, Matthew, Deputy Sheriff, Employee # [REDACTED]

Roam, Christine, Deputy Sheriff, Employee # [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Deputy Sheriff, Employee # [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Explorer, Employee # [REDACTED]

#### NON-DEPARTMENT WITNESSES

[REDACTED] FO/47, DOB: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] MW/41, DOB: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] FH/25, DOB: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] MW/31, DOB: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] FH/19, DOB: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] FH/24, DOB: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] FH/21, DOB: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] MO/61, DOB: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] FH/52, DOB: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

#### SUSPECT INJURIES

Suspect Samuel Hammond sustained three gunshot wounds to his upper torso. He was treated at Long Beach Memorial Hospital. He recovered from his injuries and was released to the custody of the Sheriff's Department.

## **DEPUTY PERSONNEL**

No injuries

## **PHYSICAL EVIDENCE**

The suspect's knife was recovered along with several other items. For a complete list and diagram of evidence recovered see **Exhibit A pages 27-31**.

## **INVESTIGATOR'S OBSERVATIONS**

Upon the investigators arrival they learned there was an active command post and containment of the crime scene area. Investigators learned of the series of events which culminated in a deputy-involved, hit-shooting involving Deputy John Denney. The personnel involved in the incident were uniformed patrol deputies.

**IAB Note:** IAB Lieutenant Scott Brickert checked to see that the watch commander, Lieutenant Ruthie Daily took reasonable steps to ensure he involved and witness personnel did not discuss the incident among themselves or with uninvolved persons prior to being interviewed by the assigned investigators, and that the involved and witness personnel did not collectively consult with their attorney or representative. In addition, IAB Lieutenant Scott Brickert checked to see if the watch commander attempted to have the involved and witness personnel gather in the company of a supervisor until they have provided a statement to the assigned investigators.

The criminal investigation was handled by Homicide Bureau Detectives Peter Hecht and Sergeant Steve Rubino. They entered the crime scene with Sheriff's Crime Lab Personnel. They documented their actions and findings on Supplemental Reports. See **Exhibit A, pages 14-26**.

**IAB Note:** Photographs of the scene are included in this case book. See **Exhibit C**. A sketch of the scene is also included, See **Exhibit A, page 29**.

### **WEAPON(S) USED BY DEPUTY PERSONNEL**

**Deputy Name:** Denney, John

**Service Weapon Type:** Beretta 9mm, 92FS

**Rounds Fired:** Three

**Type of Ammunition Used:** Department Issued Luger (Win) Ranger SXT 147gr.

**Date Employee Last Qualified:** [REDACTED]

### **WEAPON(S) USED BY SUSPECT**

**Type of Weapon Used:** Knife, folding type, brown wood handle, overall length of 8.25 inches with a 3.75 inch blade. The knife was recovered with the blade locked open in the extended position.

**Weapon Recovered:** Yes

**Weapon Checked for Fingerprints:** Yes

**Results:** No prints found

### **PROPERTY DAMAGE**

No property damage was caused by Sheriff's Department personnel. The suspect was party one in two traffic collisions which occurred during the vehicle pursuit (**See Exhibit A pages 89-102**).

### **CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR/CHARGES FILED**

**Investigator's Name:** Detective Ronald Duval and Sergeant Richard Garcia

**Court:** Beilflower

**Charges:** Six felony counts including: 245(A)(1) P.C., 245(C) P.C. and 2800.2(a) V.C..  
Two misdemeanor counts including: 2800.2(a) V.C. and 20002(a) V.C..

**Court Date:** On April 27, 2011, Suspect Hammond entered a plea of "No Contest" on one count of Assault with a Deadly Weapon, 245(A)(1) P.C., four counts of Assault on a Peace Officer, 245(C) P.C., and one count of felony Evading of a Police Officer, 2800.2(a) VC.

Suspect Hammond was sentenced to twenty-five years in state prison.



## **LIGHTING AND WEATHER CONDITIONS**

Daylight hours at 1731 hours in June, weather was clear and sunny.

## **EMPLOYEE STATEMENT(S)**

Involved Deputy Denney, John was interviewed on January 18, 2011 by Sergeants Scott Hill and Owen Tong. The interview was conducted at the Internal Affairs Bureau office in the City of Commerce. The following is a summary of the interview, which was digitally recorded and transcribed.

While in Lakewood Station, Deputy Denney heard traffic on L-Tac regarding a theft suspect leaving the Lakewood mall. Hearing the traffic, Deputy Denney and his ride-along, Explorer [REDACTED] headed to their patrol car to respond. As Deputy Denney was pulling out of the station he heard Deputy Ferguson's "10-33," advising he was in pursuit. The pursuit was quickly cancelled prior to Deputy Denney becoming involved. The handling unit, Deputy Ferguson, continued to put traffic out over L-Tac of where the suspect's vehicle was last seen. Deputy Denney, hearing the radio traffic, continued to drive in the direction where the suspect was last seen.

Deputy Denney heard radio traffic indicating the suspect was last seen in the neighborhood northwest of Paramount Boulevard and Carson Street. Deputy Denney knew Lakewood's helicopter "Sky Night" was in-service, and they would spot the suspect. Deputy Denney wanted to be in the area to be available for a containment spot, so he continued south on Paramount Boulevard from Lakewood Boulevard. As Deputy Denney turned west onto Carson Street he heard Deputy Ferguson broadcast, on L-Tac, the suspect was on Deeboyar Avenue running from him. Upon hearing the foot pursuit, Deputy Denney drove into the neighborhood to assist Deputy Ferguson.

He heard Deputy Ferguson putting out traffic the suspect was walking north on Deeboyar Avenue. As Deputy Denney turned north on Deeboyar Avenue from Greenmeadow Avenue, he saw Deputy Ferguson's empty patrol car in an alley just west of Deeboyar Avenue. Turning onto Deeboyar Avenue, Deputy Denney saw Deputy Ferguson on foot, on the west sidewalk. About seventy five yards ahead of Deputy Ferguson he saw a male black, who matched the description of the suspect.

Deputy Denney drove north on Deeboyar Avenue, stopping his patrol car in the street, facing north in front of the driveway at [REDACTED] Deeboyar Avenue. As Deputy Denney drove up he saw the suspect had a "Buck" knife in his right hand. Deputy Denney exited his patrol car taking a position where the address is written on the curb. Deputy Denney believed Deputy Ferguson must have started running as he saw him drive by, because they contacted the suspect at nearly the same time.

Deputy Ferguson was to the left of and parallel to Deputy Denney, on the sidewalk. The suspect was on the sidewalk at about the center of the mouth of the driveway. They both detained the suspect at gunpoint, giving him commands to "drop the knife." Deputy Denney advised over his radio he was detaining one at gunpoint, giving his location and that the suspect was armed with a knife. The suspect stopped, looked in their direction, and had no reaction to their commands. They continued to give the suspect commands. The suspect looked to the sky saying "I'm not going back to jail. You're going to have to kill me. Please, Lord, let him kill me."

When the suspect was making those statements Deputy Denney saw a patrol car coming south on Deeboyar Avenue. Deputy Denney hoped that unit had a less-lethal option to help defuse the situation. The suspect was still holding the knife in his right hand, which was clinched into a fist, with the blade facing up in the locked open position. The only communication between Deputy Denney and Deputy Ferguson were the commands given to the suspect.

The assisting unit arrived and Deputy [REDACTED] took a position three feet to Deputy Denny's right and Deputy Roam was three feet to the right of Deputy [REDACTED] making a semi-circle to the southeast of the suspect. They were all detaining the suspect at gunpoint. The suspect was still not responding to the commands to "drop the knife." The suspect was moving slightly from side to side and forward and back while facing toward deputies Denney and [REDACTED]

Deputy Denney did not have his taser on him. He looked to his right seeing Deputy [REDACTED] had a taser on his left side. At almost the same time he and Deputy Roam yelled for Deputy [REDACTED] to taze the suspect.

**IAB Note: Deputy Denney's taser was inside his vehicle.**

Deputy Denney saw one of the taser darts strike the suspect in his right upper torso and the other dart miss the suspect. The suspect was about ten feet away from him and Deputy [REDACTED]. In one fluid motion the suspect reached up with his left hand pulling the dart from his torso, raising the knife up and moving toward Deputy [REDACTED] and him.

Deputy Denney thought the taser did not work. Deputy [REDACTED] was unarmed with the suspect moving toward him with a knife. Fearing for Deputy [REDACTED] safety, Deputy Denney fired three rounds at the suspect. The suspect fell to the ground and Deputy Denney advised via his hand held radio of the "998."

Deputy Denney heard Deputy Roam request rescue to respond for the suspect

**IAB Note: Deputy Denney was also interviewed by Homicide Bureau Investigators on June 19, 2010 by Detective Ronald Duval and Sergeant Richard Garcia . The transcripts of that interview have been included with this case, see transcriptions.**

**DEPARTMENT WITNESS STATEMENT(S)**

**Deputy Matthew Ferguson** was interviewed on June 19, 2010, by Homicide Investigators, Sergeant Richard Garcia and Detective Ron Duval, also present during the interview was Internal Affairs Sergeant Scott Hill. For a summary of his interview see **Exhibit A pages 8-11.**

**Explorer [REDACTED]** was interviewed on June 19, 2010, by Homicide Investigators, Sergeant Richard Garcia and Detective Ron Duval, also present during the interview was Internal Affairs Sergeant Scott Hill. For a summary of her interview see **Exhibit A pages 5-6.**

**Deputy Christine Roam** was interviewed on June 19, 2010, by Homicide Investigators, Sergeant Richard Garcia and Detective Ron Duval, also present during the interview was Internal Affairs Sergeant Scott Hill. For a summary of her interview see **Exhibit A pages 6-7.**

**Deputy [REDACTED]** was interviewed on June 19, 2010, by Homicide Investigators, Sergeant Richard Garcia and Detective Ron Duval, also present during the interview was Internal Affairs Sergeant Scott Hill. For a summary of his interview see **Exhibit A pages 7-8.**

**IAB Note: The above homicide interviews were transcribed and are included with this case see transcriptions.**

**NON-DEPARTMENT WITNESS STATEMENT(S)**

**Witness [REDACTED]** was interviewed on June 19, 2010, at approximately 2145 hours, at Lakewood Station by Homicide Investigators, Detective Frank Salerno and Detective Louie Aguilera. Also present during the interview was Internal Affairs Sergeant Jimmy Rios. An audio copy of Witness [REDACTED] interview is included with this case as **Exhibit B**

The following is a summary of that interview: Witness [REDACTED] said she was in her front yard, [REDACTED] when she heard sirens. She saw a police car stop in front of the driveway three houses north of her house. She saw two deputies get out of the police car. The deputies yelled, "get on the ground, get on the ground" at a male black who was holding a knife. The male black was standing on the sidewalk where the deputies had stopped.

The male turned around holding a knife in his right hand. The male waived the knife back and forth with his arm extended in front of him. The point of the knife was pointed in the direct on of the two deputies. One of the deputies fired a taser at the male from a distance of approximately five to eight feet. The male remained standing and continued to wave the knife in front him at the deputies. Witness [REDACTED] turned her head and called for her son. During the time she was turned away she heard three gunshots. She turned back only to see the male fall to the ground. Witness [REDACTED] became scared and went inside.

Witness [REDACTED] was interviewed on June 19, 2010, at approximately 2233 hours, at Lakewood Station by Homicide Investigators, Detective Frank Salerno and Detective Louie Aguilera. Also present during the interview was Internal Affairs Sergeant Jimmy Rios. An audio copy of Witness [REDACTED] interview is included with this case as **Exhibit B**

The following is a summary of that interview: Witness [REDACTED] was in his bedroom, [REDACTED] with his [REDACTED] when he heard what sounded like cars driving down his street. He heard the sound of a helicopter overhead. He walked to the livingroom and looked out the window, which faces east onto Deeboyar Avenue. He saw two police cars stopped in front of his house. He heard voices yell, "get down, get down." He then heard what he thought was the sound of a taser being shot. He walked to his front door and heard three gunshots.

Witness [REDACTED] opened his front screen door and walked onto his porch. He saw a male lying on the apron of the driveway north of his house. He saw a deputy kicking a knife away from the male who was lying on the ground. He turned and went back inside his house and told his [REDACTED] to stay in the bedroom.

Witness [REDACTED] front door and window were open at the time of the incident. His house is [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] Deeboyar Avenue, where the shooting occurred.

Witness [REDACTED] was interviewed on June 19, 2010, at approximately 1918 hours, in front of her residence at [REDACTED] by Lakewood Detectives, Detective Rodriguez and Detective Corrales. An audio copy of Witness [REDACTED] interview is included with this case as **Exhibit B**

Witness [REDACTED] said she heard sirens, looked out the window, and saw a male black standing in the driveway next to her best friend's house, [REDACTED]. Her [REDACTED] went outside to see what was going on. She jumped on a bed and looked out the window. She saw the male black facing two of the deputies who had him surrounded. One of the deputies tazed him and the male made a quick movement toward the two deputies. That is when she heard three shots and saw the male fall to the ground. Witness [REDACTED] did not see any weapon in the male hands.

**Witness** [REDACTED] was interviewed June 19, 2010, at approximately 1923 hours, in front of his residence at [REDACTED] by Lakewood Detectives, Detective Rodriguez and Detective Corrales. An audio copy of Witness [REDACTED] interview is included with this case as **Exhibit B**

Witness [REDACTED] was in his room with his [REDACTED], [REDACTED] when he heard a siren. He looked out the window and saw a cop car pull up in front of his friends house, [REDACTED]. He jogged outside to see what was going on. Once outside he saw a "dark man, black, mexican" faced of with "four, five, six cops, I didn't count." The deputies had their guns drawn on the male. It looked like the male got hit with something, possibly a Taser. The male moved to the left or right making a swatting motion. The next thing he knows he hears three shots and the male drops to the ground. He could not see if the male had any type of weapon.

Witness [REDACTED] said he was at the edge of his grass about twenty five yards away from where the incident occurred. He did not hear the male or the deputies say anything, he believed this was because of his poor hearing and the helicopter over head.

**Witness** [REDACTED] was interviewed on June 19, 2010, at approximately 2157 hours, at Lakewood Station by Homicide Investigators, Detective Frank Salerno and Detective Louie Aguilera. Also present during the interview was Internal Affairs Sergeant Jimmy Rios. An audio copy of Witness [REDACTED] interview is included with this case as **Exhibit B**

Witness [REDACTED] said she was in her bedroom, at [REDACTED] when she heard sirens. She heard both male and female voices telling someone to "get on the floor." She heard this command at least four times. After hearing the yelling she ran to her livingroom window to look outside. Witness [REDACTED] front window faces the street where the incident took place.

Once at the window she saw a male black wearing a tan jacket, standing in her driveway. The male was standing on the driver's side of Witness [REDACTED] blue Ford Focus, near the rear bumper. The vehicle was parked in Witness [REDACTED] driveway. The male had his back to Witness [REDACTED] so she could not see if he had anything in his hands.

Witness [REDACTED] saw three male deputies and one female deputy, standing in the street, all holding the male black at gunpoint. She said one of the deputies had a shotgun the three others had handguns.

Witness [REDACTED] heard what she thought was the sound of a Taser being shot. She did not see which deputy fired the Taser. The male fell to the ground behind the blue Ford Focus out of Witness [REDACTED] view. When the male was lying on the ground, Witness [REDACTED] heard deputies yell several times, "drop the gun, get on the floor." She then heard three gunshots, but did not see who fired the shots. At this point Witness [REDACTED] could not see the male at all due to the blue Ford Focus.

When she heard the gun shots the deputies were still standing in the street, approximately five feet east of the opening to her driveway. Within seconds she saw a male deputy approach the male. She could not see what the deputy did, but believed he handcuffed the male.

**Witness** [REDACTED] was interviewed on June 19, 2010, at approximately 2350 hours, at her home, [REDACTED] by Homicide Investigators, Detective Frank Salerno and Detective Louie Aguilera. An audio copy of Witness [REDACTED] interview is included with this case as **Exhibit B**. The following is summary of her interview.

Witness [REDACTED] was parking her car in front of the apartment complex where she lives, [REDACTED] when she saw a Sheriff's car drive south on Deeboyar Avenue. The Sheriff's car turned west into an east/west running alley west of Deeboyar Avenue. The Sheriff's car turned south in the alley that ran behind the apartment complex.

When Witness [REDACTED] got out of her car she saw a male black, wearing black slacks and a tan button-up shirt, run east out of the alley where the Sheriff's car entered. The male black was followed on foot by a deputy who had his gun in his hand. Witness [REDACTED] could not see if the male black had anything in his hands. She saw a female Samoan, who was with a male holding a baby, getting into a parked car on the west side of Deeboyar Avenue. The female Samoan alerted the person she was with that someone had a gun.

She heard the deputy yell at the male black to stop, and the male responded by saying he did not have anything on him. The male black ran north on Deeboyar with the deputy pursuing after him. Witness [REDACTED] lost sight of the two behind a white truck that was blocking her view. Within seconds witness [REDACTED] heard three gunshots and saw several other police cars drive onto Deeboyar Avenue. Witness [REDACTED] did not see anything further.

**Witness** [REDACTED] was interviewed on June 19, 2010, at approximately 2211 hours, at Lakewood Station by Homicide Investigators, Detective Frank Salerno and Detective Louie Aguilera. Also present during the interview was Internal Affairs Sergeant Jimmy Rios. An audio copy of Witness [REDACTED] interview is included with this case as **Exhibit B**

Witness [REDACTED] was leaving the Lakewood Mall driving west on Del Amo Boulevard at approximately Obispo Avenue, when a light brown car hit the rear passenger's side of her car. Witness [REDACTED] could not see the occupants of the light brown car. After the collision she saw at least two police cars with their lights and sirens activated, following the light brown car. Witness [REDACTED] pulled her vehicle over and called "911" to report the collision.

Witness [REDACTED] was later transported to where the suspect's vehicle was found. She identified the suspect's vehicle, 2004 Chevy Malibu, as the vehicle that collided with her. For a complete summary of her interview see **Exhibit A pages 35-36**. A traffic collision report was taken by Lakewood Sheriff's Station and is included with this case as **Exhibit A pages 89-94**.

**Witness** [REDACTED] was interviewed on June 19, 2010, at approximately 2222 hours, at Lakewood Station by Homicide Investigators, Detective Frank Salerno and Detective Louie Aguilera. Also present during the interview was Internal Affairs Sergeant Jimmy Rios. An audio copy of Witness [REDACTED] interview is included with this case as **Exhibit B**

Witness [REDACTED] was driving west on Del Amo Boulevard in the number two lane at Obispo Avenue when the light brown car hit the rear of his car. Witness [REDACTED] was trying to gain control his car after being hit and was unable to see the occupants of the light brown car. The light brown car continued west on Del Amo Boulevard, and was followed by several police cars. Witness [REDACTED] was signaled by one of the passing deputies to wait where the collision occurred. Witness [REDACTED] was later contacted and a traffic collision report was taken and is included with this case as **Exhibit A pages 95-102**.

Witness [REDACTED] was later transported to where the suspect's vehicle was found. He identified the suspect's vehicle, 2004 Chevy Malibu, as the vehicle that collided with him. For a complete summary of his interview see **Exhibit A page 36**.



**Witness** [REDACTED] was interviewed on June 29, 2010, at [REDACTED] by Homicide Investigators Ron Duval and Mitch Robison. The following is a summary of that interview. An audio copy of Witness [REDACTED] interview is included with this case as **Exhibit B**

Witness [REDACTED] said she was inside her house when she heard the sirens stop in front. She looked out her front window, located in the northwest room of her house, and saw a male black adult standing on the driveway [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] facing some deputies. She could see the male black was holding a knife in his right hand.

The male black was holding the knife in front of him around head high. She saw the male black take two steps toward the deputies. She heard two or three shots being fired and saw the male fall to the ground. When the male fell to the ground, he fell out of Witness [REDACTED] sight due to a van parked in front of her house blocking her view.

Witness [REDACTED] said because of the sirens and the helicopter above, she did not hear if the deputies or the suspect said anything.

### **SUSPECT STATEMENT(S)**

**Suspect Samuel Hammond** on June 29, 2010, Investigators Ron Duval and Mitch Robison interviewed Suspect Hammond at Long Beach Memorial Hospital. The interview took place in the suspect's room, #723 of the Critical Care Unit, located on the seventh floor. The interview was digitally recorded and the following is a summary of the interview. An audio copy of the interview is included with this case as **Exhibit B**.

Suspect Hammond was advised of his Miranda Rights which he stated that he understood. Because of his medical condition, he was unable to sign the admonition form.

Suspect Hammond said that he didn't remember anything that happened after he was shot. Then, he said he didn't remember anything that happened the entire day of the shooting. However, he did remember certain details that did occur. He remembered being at "JC Penney's" department store, then he recanted and said, "No." He then said that he lost his job and needed "groceries and food." When asked, if he saw a video of himself inside of "JC Penney's," would that refresh his memory. He said, "Yes," but then said even if he did see it, "I couldn't say." Investigators advised the suspect that the mall (Lakewood Center Mall) has exterior video cameras and that he was seen leaving "JC Penney's," being confronted by security (loss prevention), entering his car and driving away. The suspect said he was never confronted by security and he didn't have his car, as he loaned it to a friend (nfd).

Suspect Hammond denied being chased by deputies and said he didn't know how he arrived at the shooting location. However, he remembered being shot with the "Taser." Detective Robison asked him if he remembered being hit with "electric darts" and he said, "Taser?"

During the interview, Suspect Hammond said that his [REDACTED] didn't have anything to do with this. He said that his [REDACTED] retired from the [REDACTED] and is an "honorable man." He then said, "If I have to leave this life, I would rather go."

Investigators explained to the suspect that their conversation was between him and them only, and that they wouldn't tell his [REDACTED]. The suspect said, "Like I said, if I have to leave this life, I would prefer to go, than any of my family, or my [REDACTED] or my sister. I would prefer to leave. I am responsible. I should be a man." The suspect again stated, "I would just prefer to leave this life." When asked if he felt this way because he didn't want to disappoint his [REDACTED] and he said, "Yes sir."

Investigators offered the suspect counseling and he said he wanted to live, but that his [REDACTED] needed food. Investigators said that they understood his plight, that people take stuff all the time to sell for money to buy food. Suspect Hammond again stated, "Like I said, I would just prefer to leave this life." The suspect then said that he recently lost his job at "Yoplait Yogurt" and that he "should have just got unemployment." He said he needed to buy food and pay his rent. Investigators asked the suspect if this is what it was all about, instead of disappointing his [REDACTED] he would rather leave this life and he answered, "Yes, Yes sir."

### **RADIO COMMUNICATIONS**

Deputy Ferguson used dispatch 14 during the pursuit of the suspect. The patch was activated by SCC, this radio traffic was captured and recorded. After the pursuit was cancelled Deputy Ferguson, along with assisting units, used Lakewood's L-Tac to communicate. Deputy Ferguson utilized the "direct" frequency while on L-Tac. When Deputy Ferguson came upon the suspect, Deputy Ferguson did not switch his handheld radio off of direct.

The assisting units near Deputy Ferguson were able to hear the foot pursuit and location. Because the foot pursuit traffic was on direct it was not captured or recorded. For further see the foot and vehicle pursuit review included with this report in (Miscellaneous Documents.